

<b>FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>		Application Number	10/621658
		Filing Date	July 17, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Callahan, Kenneth J.
		Art Unit	1772
		Examiner Name	Nasser Ahmad
Fax: 703-872-9306	Attorney Docket Number	58204US002	RECEIVED JAN 07 2005 CENTRAL FAX CENTER
Total Number of Pages in This Submission: 3			
Date: January 7, 2005		Attorney for Applicant: Colene H. Blank	

<b>ENCLOSURES</b> (check all that apply)			
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<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR § 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal		
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Case No.: 58204US002

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

First Named Inventor: CALLAHAN, KENNETH J.

Application No.: 10/621658 Group Art Unit: 1772

Filed: July 17, 2003 Examiner: Nasser Ahmad

Title: ADHESIVES AND RELEASE LINERS WITH PYRAMIDAL STRUCTURES

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Jan. 7, 2005

Date

Shannon M. Bruce

Signed by: Shannon M. Bruce

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed December 10, 2004. Claims 1-36 are pending. Claims 1-36 were restricted under 35 USC § 121 as follows:

- I. Claims 1-16, 29 and 34-36 are said to be drawn to an adhesive article with a release liner, classified in Class 428, subclass 40.1;
- II. Claims 17-28 and 30-31 are said to be drawn to an adhesive article, classified in Class 428, subclass 343;
- III. Claims 32-33 are said to be drawn to a method of transferring a graphic, classified in Class 156, subclass 230.

**Election**

In response, Applicants elect Group I, with traverse.

Reconsideration and withdrawal or modification of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested.

The Restriction Requirement states that Group I and Group II are related as combination and subcombination, which are distinct because the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed because the release liner in the subcombination can

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function as a liner for a nonadhesive sheet. However, Claim 1 recites an adhesive layer on the surface of the release liner. The Examiner also states that the subcombination has separate utility as a self-supporting, double sided adhesive tape. However, this separate utility should not form the basis of a restriction.

Applicants submit that the Groups I and II claims are so interrelated that a search of one group of claims will reveal art to the other. Moreover, the classification of Groups I and II claims subclasses is not sufficient grounds to require restriction.

Were restriction to be effected between the claims in Groups I and II, a separate examination of the claims in Groups I and II would require substantial duplication of work on the part of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. This duplication of effort would not be warranted where these claims are so interrelated. Further, Applicants submit that for restriction to be effected between the claims in Groups I and II, it would place an undue burden by requiring payment of a separate filing fee for examination of the nonelected claims, as well as the added costs associated with prosecuting two applications and maintaining two patents.

#### Conclusion

Applicants have elected Group I, Claims 1-16, 29 and 34-36. Continued prosecution of this application is respectfully requested.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the indicated telephone number with questions that can be resolved with a simple teleconference.

Respectfully submitted,

January 7, 2005  
Date

By: Colene H. Blank

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3M Innovative Properties Company  
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